



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 09/830,721  
Filing Date: April 30, 2001  
Applicant: Schmitt et al.  
Group Art Unit: 3679  
Examiner: Flemming Saether  
Title: IMPROVED WELDABLE ALUMINUM STUD  
Attorney Docket: GER 5272 (0275M-000305/US)

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Mail Stop  
Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following Amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks. It is believed the Amendments place the claims in an allowable condition, and do not require further substantive Examination.

A one-month extension of time was authorized to be charged to deposit account 02-2550 for the after Final Response filed August 11, 2004 for the Office Action mailed April 20, 2004. Thus, if the extension of time fee was charged as authorized, no further extension of time fee should be required at this time. If the aforementioned extension

fee was not charged, any additional fees are authorized to be charged to deposit account 02-2550.

In response to the Office Action mailed April 20, 2004, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.